

Christopher Osborne

From: Rodney Corrigan <Rodney.Corrigan@uup.org>
Sent: 22 December 2015 13:07
To: Christopher Osborne; Wesley Aston
Subject: Response from Amber Rudd
Attachments: 20151222 SoS to corrigan.pdf

Chris/Wesley,

Please see attached a response I received today via email from Tim Lord, Amber Rudd's PPS.

It appears to be in response to the meeting request we submitted for you last month.

Not particularly earth shattering.

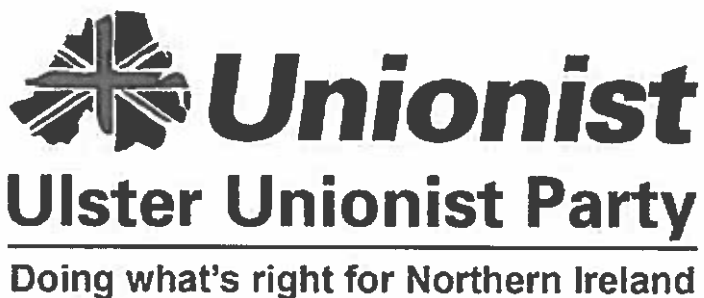
Kind regards,

Rodney Corrigan
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The Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP
Secretary of State

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22 December 2015

Dear Mr Corrigan

Thank you for your email of 13 November. My position on the issue of support to small-scale onshore wind in Northern Ireland is set out below.

The Government's manifesto commitment was clear that there would be no new subsidies for onshore wind and I am committed to delivering on this while continuing to combat climate change and keep consumer bills down.

In delivering our manifesto commitment to end subsidies to new onshore wind, it is important that an equivalent approach on RO closure is taken across the UK and I have been clear that GB consumers should not bear the cost of Northern Ireland providing additional support to onshore wind, including for small scale.

The Northern Irish onshore wind industry has benefited from UK-wide support under the Renewables Obligation, including small scale, and it is my position that projects that meet grace period conditions equivalent to those in GB will continue to benefit from this support.

I note that energy policy is a devolved matter for Northern Ireland and so it is for ministers in Northern Ireland to decide on what, if any, additional support mechanisms they deem appropriate. It would be for consumers in Northern Ireland to bear the cost of these.

Yours sincerely

AMBER RUDD